

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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*70 Years*  
*"A Partner in Conservation Since 1935"*

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**To be sent via Email**

June 29, 2005

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 260-5-47

SUBJECT: INF – GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM (GRP)

Purpose. To distribute a news release about the GRP signup.

Expiration Date. December 31, 2005.

Attached to this bulletin is a news release entitled *Grassland Reserve Program Signup*. Please feel free to adapt, as needed, and distribute to your local news outlets as soon as possible.

The State Office has distributed this news release to regional news outlets including the Linder Farm Network, Agri News and The Land.

All technical questions about GRP should be directed to Paul Flynn, GRP Program Manager. Questions regarding public information efforts should be directed to Julie MacSwain, Public Affairs Specialist.

WILLIAM HUNT  
State Conservationist.

Attachment (1)

DIST: AE



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Contact: Julie MacSwain, (651) 602-7859

### **GRASSLAND RESERVE PROGRAM SIGNUP**

**SAINT PAUL, MN June 29, 2005** Signup for the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) continues until July 22, 2005. GRP is a voluntary program that promotes grazing operations; preserves threatened and endangered species and protects grassland from conversion.

Landowners who can provide clear title are eligible to submit an application for either a permanent or 30-year easement option. Landowners and others who have general control of the acreage may submit an application for a rental agreement. Applications may be filed for an easement or rental agreement with either the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office personnel at any time.

Eligible land includes grassland or land that contains forbs or shrubs (including improved rangeland and pastureland); and grassland with potential to provide habitat for animal or plant populations of significant ecological value if the land is retained in its current use or restored to a natural condition.

GRP is authorized by the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administer the program. Funding for the GRP comes from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

If you need more information about GRP, please contact your local USDA Service Center, listed in the telephone book under U.S. Department of Agriculture. Information also is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002/>

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